

Graves was elected Representative to Congress for the Ninth Congressional District, State of Georgia.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.

Enclosure.

THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF
STATE,

June 10, 2010.

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
*Clerk, House of Representatives, H-154 U.S.
Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MS. MILLER: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election Runoff held on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, for U.S. Representative from the Ninth Congressional District of Georgia show that, as of today's date, Tom Graves received 22,684 votes or 56.5% of the total number of votes cast, and thus far counted, for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Tom Graves was elected as the U.S. Representative from the Ninth Congressional District of Georgia.

At this time, we are not aware of any contest to this election. As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all counties involved, the official "Certificate of Election" will be prepared and forwarded to the Governor's Office for transmittal to you as required by Georgia law.

If we can assist you further, please let us know.

Sincerely,

WESLEY B. TAILOR.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE TOM GRAVES, OF GEORGIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia, the Honorable Tom Graves, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect GRAVES and the members of the Georgia delegation present themselves in the well.

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 111th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE TOM GRAVES TO THE HOUSE OF REP- RESENTATIVES

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, Members of the House, it's a great honor to introduce TOM GRAVES, the newest member of the Georgia delegation and, obviously, the newest Member of the United States Congress. TOM comes to us from the Ninth District of Georgia, the seat which was held by Nathan Deal. And we all miss Nathan. He was a leading voice on Medicaid and immigration issues. And I know that TOM will continue that fight for the people of the Ninth District of Georgia.

TOM comes from Ranger, Georgia. You may not know Ranger, Georgia, population 91, but it's a little bit down the road from Red Bud, Georgia, which isn't incorporated, and not too far from Fairmount, Georgia. The three of them collectively are near nothing at all. They are in Gordon County.

Now, TOM served for 7½ years in the Georgia General Assembly and was on the Transportation, Health and Human Services Committee and the Ways and Means Committee. He was a leader in job creation for the State of Georgia, and with his JOBS Act, introduced in 2009, he worked for pro-growth legislation—legislation that would phase out the corporate income tax and eliminate the burdensome inventory tax for Georgia businesses. For this, he was recognized by ALEC, the American Legislative Exchange Council, to which many of us once belonged. He was nominated and earned the title of Legislator of the Year.

TOM has also been recognized by the National Federation of Independent Businesses as the Guardian of Small Business and by the Georgia Retail Association for being Legislator of the Year, and was one of only two State legislators in the country to be selected by FreedomWorks Foundation to receive the Legislative Entrepreneurial Award.

TOM, we're very glad to have you. But we're also especially glad to have your wife, Julie, who's sitting up in the gallery. TOM also has his three children with him today: JoAnn, John, and Janey. And we're glad that you're going to share your daddy with us.

TOM is well known back home for having a beautiful family and a very ugly pickup truck. But he is committed to the truck. He's had it for 13 years—and he thought that was a long time. But I want to introduce you to GARY ACKERMAN, who will tell you how to really take care of a car, which I think now is going on 30 years old.

TOM, I also want to tell my friends CLIFF STEARNS and CORRINE BROWN, who come from a State that likes to pretend like they play football, that TOM Graves is a Georgia Bulldog. We can always use one more in the world. So if any of you people from Florida want to convert, it would be a good time.

TOM, we welcome you to the greatest body, the greatest legislative body the world has ever seen: the United States Congress.

With that, I want to yield to my good friend, Mr. JOHN LEWIS, the dean of our delegation.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my good friend, JACK KINGSTON, for yielding me time.

As the dean of the Georgia delegation, it is my great pleasure to welcome TOM GRAVES to the United States House of Representatives. Mr. GRAVES is not a stranger to Georgia politics. He served in the Georgia State House of Representatives for almost 8 years. TOM, I not only welcome you, but I am proud to welcome your beautiful wife, Julie, and your three lovely and beautiful children.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker and Congressman LEWIS, Congressman KINGSTON, thank you.

As we recognize Flag Day today, it's also a reminder of the greatness of this young Republic, the foundations for which it rests, and the opportunity that awaits.

As one who didn't grow up in wealth or politics but, really, quite the opposite—very simple beginnings in a single-wide trailer on a tar and gravel road in the backwoods of north Georgia—I am here now able to pay tribute to my parents who couldn't give me the material things in life but, instead, they showed me love and they encouraged me to dream big, to work hard, and achieve much.

And while I am standing before you today as a freshman Member, I am the freshest voice from the campaign trail. And the message from the hills of north Georgia to the Hill of this great building is very clear, and that is that it's time to curb spending. It's time to balance the budget, and it's time to empower the people.

While the challenges are great in this Nation, the will and the Constitution of her people are greater. And, you know, my dad was right. If we, as Americans, dream big, work hard, we can achieve much as a Nation.

So on behalf of Georgia Nine, Madam Speaker, I am here to go to work.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Georgia, the whole number of the House is 433.

SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TONKO). Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to